# University Senate

# ***General Assembly***

# Meeting Minutes

# April 23, 2021

**Senators Present**: Minerva Ahumada, Francis Alonzo, Suzanne Bost, Laura Brentner, Anthony Deldin, Jenna Drenten, Eilene Edejer, Sarita Heer, Lee Hood, Ashley Howdeshell, Diane Jokinen, Dan Killelea, Kristin Krueger, Patricia Lee, Steven Todd, Susan Uprichard, Maria Wathen, Bill Adams, Anne Divita Kopacz, Tobyn Friar, Kevin Newman, Kathleen Steinfels, Ella Doyle, Teresa Fister, Martin Flores, Charles Hwang, Selam Kahsay, Jacob Palmer, Krislyn Zhorne, Thomas Kelly, Michael Kaufman, Nancy Tuchman, Norberto Grywacz *(ex. officio),* Tavis Jules *(ex. officio),* Kevin Kennedy *(ex. officio)*

**Absent**: William Duffy

**Guests:** Interim Dean of School of Continuing and Professional Studies, Dr. Jeanne Widen, Founding Dean of the Institute for Racial Justice, Dr. Malik Henfield, Honors BIPOC Coalition, Gia Clarke, Honors BIPOC Coalition, Diya Patel

**Quorum (31/32)**: Voting members present at start of meeting; quorum is **satisfied**.

Chair Uprichard called public meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

1. **Review of preliminary agenda and call for motions to amend**

No calls to amend.

1. **Review of minutes from the March 19, 2021 meeting**

No calls to amend the minutes. The minutes are then unanimously approved.

1. **Action Item: Rainbow Chart Review of SCPS move to ONTHECUSP**

***Interim Dean of School of Continuing and Professional Studies, Dr. Jeanne Widen***

Chair Uprichard introduces the topic and gives the floor to Dean Widen.

Dr. Widen: Thank you and I’m looking forward to a robust discussion.

The proposal is to change the School of Continuing and Professional Studies to a new unit for the transformation and expansion of corporate and adult education at Loyola University Chicago.

The new unit is called IMPACT: Interdisciplinary Mission-Driven Programs for Adult and Corporate Transformation.

There are three main propositions to this proposal.

Proposition 1

* In order to better serve and grow adult education and corporate programs at Loyola University Chicago, SCPS will become a new unit that serves the University-wide community, IMPACT.

Proposition 2

* IMPACT will be placed within ONTHECUSP (One-Loyola Network for Transdisciplinary and Human-centered Elucidation of Complex and Urgent Social Problems.) to support transdisciplinary collaborations for adult and corporate programs University-wide and engage corporate expertise in addressing complex and urgent social problems.

Proposition 3

* SCPS will not longer be an individual school in order for IMPACT to serve the University-wide community in the following ways:
  + Expand adult education
  + Expand corporate partnerships by housing new Office of Corporate Engagement
  + Support interdisciplinary collaboration across the University’s schools
  + Engage corporate partners
  + Build on our successes and strengths with corporate outreach and programming

There are also three main objectives in creating IMPACT.

One, is increase the adult and professional learner population at Loyola through corporate partnerships and programs that cater to workplace needs and trends, with nimble curriculum that can be adjusted to evolving requirements.

Two, to assist other schools in developing interdisciplinary and corporate programs for working adult students and provide expertise in supporting faculty and adult students within the programs.

Third, we will increase enrollment University-wide while maintain our mission of educational access and upholding our Jesuit values of cura personalis and social justice.

The mission of IMPACT is to forge corporate and interdisciplinary partnerships to serve working adult students and find solutions to urgent and complex social problems.

Our vision in brief is to grow educational programs for adult students through corporate partnerships and interdisciplinary collaborations that responds to evolving workplace needs. We will significantly increase enrollment while promoting greater educations access and Jesuit values.

To follow through on our mission and vision IMPACT will enact several strategies. The first strategy will be to provide leadership, oversite, and coordination for the Office of Corporate Engagement. Our second strategy is to ensure program nimbleness and flexibility and office a range of programs University-wide to meet the needs of corporate partners and working adult learners. Our third strategy will be to support other units in providing corporate and adult education programs. The fourth strategy is to work within ONTHECUSP to promote educational access and success for working adults and find solutions to complex and urgent social problems.

We will be presenting IMPACT to the Board of Trustees and Dean’s Council. This summer will start building our Corporate Engagement office and put together a search committee to find a director. The goal is to launch IMPACT in Fall 2022.

Thank you and I welcome any questions.

Questions:

Sen. Hood: Thank you. Can you give an example or two in terms of corporate education and programs?

Dean Widen: The Executive and Professional Education Center at the Business School that oversees non-credit training would be an ideal partner as we will expand the range of non-credit training that Loyola can offer to corporate partners. We could work with SES to expand sustainability training and Parkinson for public health training. We will be able to expand to credit training as well.

Sen. Hood: Will this change anything for those currently enrolled in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies?

Dean Widen: No, we hope to not have any programs and services diminished in any way by this change, only an expansion of what exists. This is a concern for us and we want to ensure continuity for those currently enrolled.

Sen. Flores: I am the outgoing vice president of SGLC and you may have heard our presentation to Dean’s Council to rescind the corporate partnership with Chicago Police Department. It goes without saying the CPD does not manifestly reflect our values. My question is about looking forward and when we devote university resources to firms and corporate entities, what the vetting process will be and what the criteria will be for deciding what firms we want to partner with? How is our mission built into that vetting process?

Dean Widen: That is an excellent question. I will be honest, we have not discussed that yet. My own response to that question is that we hope to be a force for positive change. Let’s say we able to bring change and reform to an organization, such as Chicago Police Department, should we decline that or should be try to help them? The same could be asked of companies with a really bad track record with sustainability. Perhaps we will say we would do a program but they will have to commit to meeting certain goals that we establish for them. Can we really ensure that they will meet those goals? Maybe not, but perhaps it is still worth it to make the effort. Do we have an ethical line that we are going to draw in regards to who we partner with and that is something we will absolutely discuss and work out.

Sen. Kelly: In what ways do you think this change to the School of Continuing and Professional Studies will help with enrollment and engagement?

Dean Widen: The ability to house the director of Corporate Engagement will help us work together and inform outreach and development. I think that will be one of the primary ways we grow, but also to be able to develop programs that are attractive to adult learners. I do think our undergraduate degree completion programs will see increased enrollment as well.

Chair Uprichard: Because you would no longer be a school, that faculty that are in that school now where will their academic appointments be held? And the students who continue to take programs in the degrees that you have been offering, where will those degrees come from if they are not associated with a school?

Dean Widen: The degrees right now come from Loyola University Chicago, it is not a diploma from the School of Continuing and Professional Studies. That will not change. I think the concern is how to create a home for our students, a community. We will continue to do what we already do in terms of creating community and support. As for the faculty, this is an issue we still have to work out operationally.

Provost Norberto: The degrees are Loyola degrees because Loyola faculty regardless of their appointment and they can be faculty in IMPACT. The faculty will continue their appointments just as before in the home departments or in IMPACT or ONTHECUSP, just as before. Nothing formally happens to the faculty with this change only that their contract will say that they are faculty members in IMPACT.

Chair Uprichard: So their review will continue to occur in that IMPACT unit?

Provost Norberto: That is correct.

Sen. Ahumada: I want to piggyback on Sen. Flores’ question and the comment the Provost just made. If you are going to be working in ONTHECUSP, that unit will be made up of faculty from various departments and units on campus, are thinking about how to coordinate the feedback in regards to the issues Sen. Flores brought up with corporate partnerships?

Dean Widen: The idea really is work closely with those units that will comprise ONTHECUSP, so absolutely we will be looking for their insight and feedback from these different places of expertise.

Provost Norberto: I think this is a great question. The leadership of ONTHECUSP will be formed by the leaders of the various units involved. This group is meeting to create the internal structure of ONTHECUSP and they will continue to meet to discuss the implementation of the mission of ONTHECUSP.

Chair Uprichard: Do we have motion to vote?

Motion by Sen. Lee, seconded by Sen. Heer.

Vote on support of moving School of Continuing and Professional Studies to ONTHECUSP

Support: 16

Oppose: 6

Abstain: 5

Motion passes.

1. **Action Item: Review of Institute for Racial Justice**

***Founding Dean of the Institute for Racial Justice, Dr. Malik Henfield***

Chair Uprichard introduces the topic and states that as this is an institute it does not have to go through the rainbow chart review, but Provost Norberto wanted to bring this to Senate. Gives the floor to Dean Henfield.

Dean Henfield: Thank you for having me here to talk about the Institute for Racial Justice.

At my previous institution, I served on a body very similar to the University Senate and greatly appreciate feedback from this body. I hope to come back in the Fall when we are closer to being finalized to get another round of feedback.

While this is still a work in progress, race is centered in all we do. We are as focused on building an effective culture as we are on strategy. This is an external/internal collaborative process and will be iterative as we move forward.

I originally came to Loyola as the Dean of the School of Education. Following the murder of George Floyd in May of 2020, I decided to write a letter in June to the faculty, staff, and students in the School of Ed sharing that we, like many institutions, are racist at our core and we need to start doing something about it. This led to a conversation with the Provost about the work of anti-racism and creating a center in the School of Ed. The Provost said that was too small and should be university-wide. That lead to creation of the Institute for Racial Justice.

From about June to November 2020, a draft of the strategic plan for the Center was being created. That draft was shared with about 20 faculty members and it was torn to shreds, rightfully so. It was not the best strategy to create the Institute with just Deans and administrators. Starting in 2021, I began the process of talking to other foundations and hired consultants from Edudream to help craft this Institute. Edudream is a Latino-led consulting firm here in Chicago.

The hope is to produce a strategic plan by summer and implementation in early Fall.

The charge of the Institute for Racial Justice is as follows. The Institute for Racial Justice (IRJ) at Loyola University Chicago will serve as a central hub for the university community and external partners who want to dismantle racism through education, research, and community engagement. IRJ will be a highly visible anchor in Chicago where discourse, fellowship, and reimagination converge to aid in the elimination of racism, anti-blackness, and xenophobia. The Institute will research new and innovative ways to facilitate healing and liberation for Asian, Black, Latina/e/o/x, and Indigenous people who have been on the receiving end of entrenched systemic racism. IRJ will support institutional change by sharing its research findings, in-person and virtually, in Chicago, across the nation, and globally.

The research agenda for the Institute includes, inclusive democracy and civic engagement, fair and equitable education, holistic health and healing, liberatory social mobility, transformative futures, and environmental justice and sustainability. We will engage community members/partners, faculty, and students to enact this research agenda.

Educational offerings will promote existing educational offerings to community partners resulting in the creation of new interdisciplinary programs. This will mean Loyola will go to the people and communities who would benefit from these offerings, not just expect them to come to Loyola’s campuses.

The Institute will form partnership with community organizations to address problems of racial inequities in real time with real outcomes. The Institute will host public conferences, symposia, and webinars devoted to current issues in racial equity and social justice. We will also offer a range of educational resources that free and open to the public, including education and research experiences.

The Institute has gathered statements of support from other institutions and organizations. One example is from the Chicago Urban League.

That is all I have to share today and I would like to return when we have things more concrete in the Fall.

Questions:

Sen. Hood: How will the Racial Examen will be connected to the Institute?

Dean Henfield: One of consultants that is running the Examen is also a consultant for the Institute and those results will be shared with the Institute. This will inform the needs of the students that we are trying to address.

Sen. Bost: I was wondering about student input. A former grad student at another institution is offering a 4 credit course to undergraduates to envision what diversity and inclusion would look like and what would make them feel included in the University. I’m just throwing that out there as a suggestion, but would also like to make sure that our students are giving their input.

Dean Henfield: I completely agree. One of the difficulties we’ve had is creating a robust website that is interactive in nature. I am working with a donor who is willing to fund efforts for this website creation. The vision for the website is for it to be a location where individuals leave feedback in ways that we can collect and act on. We are making hires to ensure we have the people in place and put them in positions to be successful so that feedback can successfully be acted upon.

Chair Uprichard: Will the Institute be degree granting?

Dean Henfield: Yes, that is our vision. We want to do this in creative ways and be interdisciplinary. The details are yet to be determined.

Sen. Edejer: There are so many DEI efforts coming out of Loyola at the moment. It would be really great if all these efforts could somehow be communicated in a unified message so we all know what is happening and what work is actually being done.

Dean Henfield: Yes, I am in full agreement. For full transparency, it has been a challenging experience but what keeps me here is we have a lot of good work happening. Hopefully this VP for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will come in and herd all of these cats, these efforts and create an actionable strategy.

Chair Uprichard: Thank you for coming and presenting.

1. **Informational Item: Honors BIPOC Coalition**

***Gia Clarke and Diya Patel***

Chair Uprichard introduces the topic and gives the floor to Gia Clarke and Diya Patel.

Diya Patel: Thank you for having us. My name is Diya Patel and I’m a 3rd year Marketing major. I’m also a lead peer advisor and also heavily involved in SDMA (Student Diversity and Multicultural Affairs). Current Vice President and incoming President of Honor BIPOC Coalition.

Gia Clarke: I am a second year in Anthropology and Public Relations major and currently the co-marketing chair at HBC (Honor BIPOC Coalition). I’m also a tour guide and will an orientation leader this summer.

Diya Patel: HBC has been working for about 8 months and only public as an organization for about 4 months. We are not yet a registered student organization but we hope to become one next semester. In general, we are a group of like-minded Honors BIPOC individuals who came together to improve the program that we love.

Gia Clarke: Starting out with our vision we envision an Honors program that reflects the view of all Honors students and is built on mutual respect specifically for underrepresented populations in the Honors program and at Loyola as a whole. Our mission is to create a more welcoming and affirming space for Honors BIPOC students through the diversification of the student population, curriculum, and faculty at Loyola. Also providing greater support for marginalized students at Loyola’s Honor programs.

Our goals to getting to that vision is first reforming recruitment practices to diversity the demographics of the Honors program. Secondly, we want to give greater transparency on the demographics of the Honors program. As of right now you cannot access those demographics anywhere online. We also want to eradicate the focus on the Western civilization and tradition and expand the scope of Honors 101 and 102 specifically to have a great emphasis on globally intellectuality and contributions worldwide not just the West. We also want to diversity the faculty that would honor and respectfully teach texts with cultural competency. And finally, we want to create greater support for BIPOC students with dedicated resources that are focused on created safe and welcoming spaces for marginalized students within the Honors program, but also the University as a whole.

Diya Patel: I also want to clarify that our organization does not just represent BIPOC students, we are the voice of all Honors students who want to improve the program. We also want to include feminist voices, queer voices, and other in the Honor curriculum so it more clearly reflects the student population.

The reason for us coming to Senate is that faculty and staff outreach and support has been a goal of this organization. We want to work with as many faculty and staff as possible to get feedback on our work and how to navigate a system that we are totally unaware of.

In order to change the Honors program, the curriculum as a whole must change since the Honors program is built on that overall curriculum. We need the support of faculty to make those changes. So we are trying to create a network of faculty and staff who will work with us to achieve these goals.

We also wanted to share that since we are trying to become a registered student organization, we are looking for a faculty advisor. We are looking for someone who matches our values and can guide us and help us grow.

Gia Clarke: This has been a busy semester for a us as our first semester as a public group. So far we have established relationships with First Year Experience and SDMA. We’ve also seen a lot of support from faculty and staff and several departments that are key in the Honors program.

We had our first public event that was open for students to attend was the Honor BIPOC Coalition Town Hall. That was a space where students could share their experiences of the Honors program. It was an absolute success and we were able to write down those experiences of those Honors students and give that to the Honors administration so they can understand their students.

Diya Patel: In the coming semester we hope to become a registered student organization. Becoming an RSO would give us funding that would help us put on events and create awareness. We are planning to have continued meetings throughout the summer with faculty. We are looking to have a DEI speaker series and have people come and talk.

In terms of how the Senate can specifically help, it would be a great help if Senators could sign our petition [tinyurl.com/honorsbipoc](http://tinyurl.com/honorsbipoc) Also if you are interested in meeting with us or working with us you can contact us at [dpatel20@luc.edu](mailto:dpatel20@luc.edu) or [honorsbipoc@gmail.com](mailto:honorsbipoc@gmail.com)

Questions:

Chair Uprichard: I want to commend you all the work you’ve done and you are making great strides. Senators can bring this information back to the constituencies. You did a great job.

Sen. Wathen: Amazing presentation, and I’m just curious about your partnerships with other registered student organizations.

Diya Patel: Yes, we have four co-signers. We have the Honors Student Association, Student Government of Loyola Chicago, Black Cultural Center, and Mixed Heritage Union. Our townhall was co-hosted by the Honors Student Association.

Chair Uprichard: Thank you, Gia and Diya for joining us.

1. **End of Year Updates:**

Chair Uprichard gives updates.

* + 1. Shared Governance Task Force Update
       - Work not completed and will be postponed until next year, will continue
    2. Unemployment Scam resolution update
       - Response in Sakai, please read and send additional comments and concerns to the new Executive Committee once elected
    3. Tobacco -Free campus resolution update
       - Not a signed response but administration is very supportive and has a committee to look into and move forward
    4. Summer availability
       - Last summer we asked people to available for urgent issues and things are still coming up so might be good for the Senate to be available

Officially close this year and begin next year.

1. **Introduction of New Senators**

Chair Uprichard introduces new Senators.

We have several Senators leaving. Senator Jokinen, Chair Uprichard, Senator Todd, Senator Edejer, and Senator Howdeshell.

We have several Senators returning. Senator Steinfels, Senator Friar, Senator Krueger, Senator Killelea, Senator Wathen, and Senator Ahumada.

New Senators:

Matthew Williams - Senator for College of Arts and Sciences

Eve Geroulis – Senator for Quinlan School of Business

Yvonne El Ashmawi – Senator for School of Education

Wei Qui – Senator for Stritch School of Medicine

Joe Mitzenbacher – Senator for University Libraries

Chair Uprichard: Welcome to our new Senators. So now the new Senate needs to elect the new Executive Committee for the next year.

1. **Election of 2021-2022 Executive Committee**

Call for nominations for Chair.

Sarita Heer nominated for Chair. Sen. Heer previously served as Vice Chair on the Executive Committee.

Vote for Chair:

Sarita Heer: 29

Abstain: 3

Sarita Heer has been elected Chair of Senate for 2021-2022.

Call for nominations for Vice Chair.

Kristen Krueger and Dan Killelea nominated.

Vote for Vice Chair:

Kristen Krueger: 19

Dan Killelea: 11

Abstain: 3

Kristen Krueger has been elected Vice Chair of Senate for 2021-2022.

Call for nominations for Secretary>

Anne Divita Kopacz has been nominated.

Vote for Secretary:

Anne Divita Kopacz: 28

Abstain: 2

Anne Divita Kopacz has been elected Secretary of Senate for 2021-2022.

Call for nominations for Secretary Pro-Tempore.

Kathleen Steinfels nominated.

Vote for Secretary Pro-Tempore:

Kathleen Steinfels: 29

Abstain: 2

Kathleen Steinfels has been elected Secretary Pro-Tempore.

1. **Summer Availability**

Chair Heer: Last summer due to the pandemic, Senators were asked to be ready to be called to a meeting should certain issues arise that needed Senate attention. Would the Senators for the 2021-2022 term be willing to be meet this summer should an issue arise given that we are still dealing with the pandemic?

Any discussion about this request?

Sen. Hood: I would certainly be willing to serve this summer if an emergency meeting is needed.

Motion to vote by Sen. Hwang, seconded by Sen. Kelly

Vote for Summer Availability:

Yes: 27

No: 1

Abstain: 3

Motion passes to be available for an emergency summer meeting.

Motion to adjourn, Sen. Lee, seconded by Sen. Mitzenbacher.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.**

*Respectfully Submitted AEH 5/30/21*

**Senate Meeting Schedule for Academic Year 2020-2021**

* **University Senate Schedule:**
  + **~~September 18 3:00-5:30pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~October 16 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~November 20 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~January 22 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~February 19 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~March 19 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~April 23 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
* **Executive Committee Schedule:**
  + **~~September 8 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~October 5 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~November 6 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~January 4 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~February 10 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~March 5 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**
  + **~~April 9 3:00-5:00pm Zoom~~**